

## SLO CENTRAL NEWS – ECC 8 NEARING REALITY

SLO EC Richard Dickey, W6RKA, has maintained ECC 8 "single-handedly" for the past several months (years?). Now it appears that the new SLO Fire Station #1 is prepared to accept the installation and operation of our permanent ECC 8. Expect Richard to be checking in any Tuesday from the new Broad Street location.

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### ALINCO HTs FOR CHEAP!

Thanks to Bill Palmerston, K6BWJ, SLOECC recently acquired a brand new Alinco DJ-S41 HT for 440 (70cm) for around \$90 for the Atascadero ECC (ECC 3). The units run about 300mw, and are the size of a cigarette pack. Apparently they are still available from the catalog supplier as this newsletter goes to press, so if you need a small and inexpensive access to 440, give Bill a call at 466-0308.

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### FLO HELPS LO DEAL WITH NINO

Several Los Osos area hams are key members of a dispatch team that is the lifeline of project "FLO HELP." Flood Los Osos Help consists of a group of Los Osos citizens who have volunteered to help their neighbors with flooding emergencies. The community's previous drainage district is no longer funded (voted out in June 1997), and FLO HELP was formed to meet the need for emergency help for residents suffering during floods.

FLO HELP invites Los Osos volunteers who are willing to be "inconvenienced or called to help at a time fit only for the proverbial 'swamp rats.'" Among the hams actively involved are Chuck Wilson N6MUJ, Charlie Currey KD6RCQ, Alex Cosentino KC6MHY, Jerry Daitch WB6ROW, and Mort Brewer W6JU.

Want to help? Call Tony Kwid at 528-0169 or Brian Bailey at 534-1003 or contact one of the hams noted.

-- info from Chuck Wilson, N6MUJ  
EC, South Bay

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### TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES – NEAR AND FAR

ARES/RACES members looking to sharpen their emergency communications skills are invited to check out the following resources (for more info, contact your EC or the source noted):

**CSTI:** Hams participate several times a year in the emergency simulation exercises sponsored by the California Specialized Training Institute at Camp San Luis Obispo. The exercise takes most of a weekday, so it's tough on working stiffs, but it's VERY well worth your while if you're serious about emergency communications. **CONTACT:** Bill Sundius, AA6CT at 434-5662.

**CAL POLY ARC:** The Cal Poly Amateur Radio Club holds periodic licensing classes, with no-code and upgrade sessions. ARES/RACES members are invited to participate. **CONTACT:** Kent Henneuse, KE6OJR at ke6ojr@w6bhz.calpoly.edu

**LA CANADA VERT:** Volunteer Emergency Response Team training is available from the La Canada Flintridge VERT program. VERT's "Basic Curriculum" includes these three modules: 1. Personal Disaster Preparedness; 2. First Aid and Responder Safety; 3. Volunteer Activation and Responsibilities. All day Saturday sessions in La Canada Flintridge (near Pasadena) several times a year. Next session: January 24. **CONTACT:** Bob Alberti, W6TTX, at 461-5993 or w6ttx@fix.net

**SLOECC TRAINING MANUAL:** SLOECC's own training manual is a resource with which all local ARES/RACES members should be familiar. The Manual is updated regularly – the current version is available from your EC.

**SLOECC ARES/RACES TRAINING MEETINGS:** Take a look at SLOECC's 1998 Calendar in this issue of the newsletter. If you're there every month, you're going to be ready when the need arises!

Dec '97



**SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY ARES/RACES/SLOECC**  
**1998 CALENDAR**

**January**

- 13th - SLOECC Board Meeting
- 28th - SLOECC General Meeting - Tech Talk (Dr. Richard Dickey, W6RKA)

**February**

- 10th - SLOECC Board Meeting
- 25th - SLOECC General Meeting - New RF Requirements (Max Sicher, WD6Z)

**March**

- 10th - SLOECC Board Meeting
- 25th - SLOECC General Meeting - First Annual Gadget Party (Max, Richard, Ron, et al. to show us how to build the necessary "gadgets" we need -- connectors, portable J-Poles, battery packs, etc.)
- 28th - Fourth Annual Communications Symposium  
Mobile ECC Demonstration

**April**

- 7th - SLOECC Board Meeting
- 22nd - SLOECC General Meeting - Repeater and Simplex Coverage  
Ron Patterson, W6FM - State Microwave System  
Preface to proposed repeater mapping  
Out-of-area repeaters  
Frequencies other than 2m and 70cm  
Cross-Band repeaters

**May**

- 2nd - Repeater Mapping
- 12th - SLOECC Board Meeting
- 16th - Repeater Mapping
- 27th - SLOECC General Meeting  
Response Guidelines (Jack Hunter, KD6HHG)  
How does our system work? What do I do when called? What are our capabilities?  
What else can I do? (Dr. Bob Alberti, W6TTX)  
More than "just a communicator." Other emergency duties/functions/capabilities.

**June**

- 6th - Second Annual SLOECC Bar-B-Q (at Estero)  
Repeater Mapping Conclusion
- 9th - SLOECC Board Meeting
- 24th - SLOECC General Meeting - Training Exercise (Bill Peirce, KE6FKS & Chuck Wilson, N6MUJ)

**July**

- 14th - SLOECC Board Meeting

**August**

- 11th - SLOECC Board Meeting
- 29th - PG&E Siren Test

**September**

- 8th - SLOECC Board Meeting
- 23rd - SLOECC General Meeting - Media Night  
Guest Speakers from local newspapers, radio and TV

**October**

- 13th - SLOECC Board Meeting
- 28nd - SLOECC General Meeting - Training Exercise (Bill Peirce, KE6FKS & Chuck Wilson, N6MUJ)

**November**

- 10th - SLOECC Board Meeting
- 18th - SLOECC General Meeting - Elections

**December**

- 8th - SLOECC Board Meeting



## NEW SITES SIGHTED

Here are a few more Web Sites of interest to emergency communications workers:

[www.fema.gov/](http://www.fema.gov/) - FEMA (obviously)  
[www.chp.ca.gov/](http://www.chp.ca.gov/) - CHP Web Page (kinda neat)  
[www.cad.chp.ca.gov/](http://www.cad.chp.ca.gov/) - CHP Computer Dispatch (real neat)  
[www.dot.ca.gov/](http://www.dot.ca.gov/) - Cal-Trans Web Page including up to date road information (a must!)  
[www.ca.gov/s/](http://www.ca.gov/s/) - California Web Page  
[www.leginfo.public.ca.gov/](http://www.leginfo.public.ca.gov/) - The entire body of California Law in one place (try it once for fun)  
[www.weather.com/](http://www.weather.com/) - The Weather Channel  
[www.nwsia.noaa.gov](http://www.nwsia.noaa.gov) - NOAA in LA (a must)

— Jack Hunter, KD6HHG

[www.intellicast.com/weather/lax/satloop](http://www.intellicast.com/weather/lax/satloop)

Los Angeles International Airport Satellite Loop (weather)

— Bob Gromer, WA7NMJ

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## HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE ACS NEWSLETTER

*[SLOECC Editor's note: the ACS Newsletter is produced by the Auxiliary Communications Services Training Unit of the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services.]*

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The purpose of this weekly newsletter is to bring those of us in emergency communications closer together by sharing common ideas, and by introducing new technology into the emergency services community. All individuals with an interest in emergency communications, disaster preparedness or helping the community at large are encouraged to participate here in an open forum. You will find a virtual community here with representatives from many different organizations with the same common goal: emergency response. We encourage everyone, from whatever organization you represent (or just yourself!) to bring us your ideas, suggestions, concerns, manuals, handbooks, or opinions so that we may share them with the group.

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WASHINGTON (November 12, 1997) — The National Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (NVOAD) is a consortium of 31 organizations that assist FEMA in disaster-relief work. NVOAD recently upgraded its Web site — [www.vita.org/nvoad](http://www.vita.org/nvoad) — with new information and improved features of interest to those involved in disaster relief:

- \* easy access to home pages of NVOAD's 31 national members
- \* new section dealing with leadership documents
- \* NVOAD history
- \* single page summaries of member organizations disaster response programs
- \* links to other disaster related pages
- \* coming soon: an on-line form allowing state, substate and national member organizations to update their roster information while visiting the NVOAD home page.

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(PTSD@MAELSTROM.STJOHNS.EDU) is a support and discussion list for ALL people with disabilities (PwD) who have or think they may have Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), their family, their friends and professionals. The PTSD list welcomes discussions of any topic directly related to how PTSD has, is or will be affecting your relationships with others. All family members, friends and professionals are invited to join. To subscribe, send an e-mail to — [listerv@maelstrom.stjohns.edu](mailto:listerv@maelstrom.stjohns.edu) — with the following command in the BODY of the message:

"Subscribe PTSD yourfirstname yourlastname"

For example:

"Subscribe PTSD Joe Smith"

— Dr Clyde Shideler  
[cedisabl@sprynet.com](mailto:cedisabl@sprynet.com)



[ACS Newsletter -- continued]

EMCOMM Bulletin: EMC109 What type emergency? For release 12/8/97

Query: "What type of COMMUNICATION emergency would be declared for the activation of the RACES (Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service)?"

Response: The situation is the same for any unit supplying emergency communications, not just the RACES, so let's talk in generic terms of EMCOM (emergency communication) units, whether the Auxiliary Communications Service (ACS), RACES, or others:

A. A "declared emergency" IS NOT NEEDED to activate an EMCOM unit unless there is a state or local law that specifically requires that there be a declaration. There may be a few jurisdictions where this may apply, but by-and-large it does not.

B. "Activation" can be a phone call to the Radio Officer as a 'heads-up'; or as a "come on in just-in-case", or "we'd sure appreciate your joining us at the meeting today." It does NOT

C. A "COMMUNICATIONS" emergency does not need to exist first. EMCOM unit personnel have never required a "COMMUNICATIONS" emergency, although one may exist to a degree. However, if there FIRST had to be a full-blown communications emergency the agency may not be able to reach its unit's people. In fact, in one incident in which the agency waited too long they had to send their sheriff's deputies out by car to get their EMCOM people!

D. The EMCOM unit can be utilized anytime the agency decides to do so unless a state law specifies otherwise.

E. A prudent AGENCY official will notify at least the Radio Officer in ANY situation that any other response official is notified, even those situations where there is not yet a threat. Consider a hazmat spill. Many such reports are benign, but they can easily escalate into a major event explosively.

F. Skywarn is an example of a use before an emergency. A tornado (or hurricane) may or may not become an emergency. While Skywarn is usually a stand-alone service, if a local should it be necessary to wait for the damage to start? It would not make sense. We use this to illustrate the fact that it's not necessary for the emergency to be in effect. A tornado or hurricane is potentially devastating. In yet another instance, should the community that is alerted for a possible flood wait until the levee breaks to call out its EMCOM unit? That wouldn't serve the possible need, would it?

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If you have opinions, suggestions or written material that you'd like to share with the group, let us know. We're always looking for new ideas and suggestions that will benefit everyone.

-- Dave Larton N6JQJ

California State ACS Training Officer  
Governor's Office of Emergency Services  
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### **SHORTS FROM THE SMARTT AMATEUR**

Electronic Version -- December 1997

Newsletter of SMARTT: the Santa Maria Amateur Radio Telegraphy and Telephony Association. Editor, Archie L. Miller, W6ALM, (805) 349-1554, w6alm@juno.com [Material edited for style and fit to SLOECC newsletter -- ed.]

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#### **FIRST, THE BAD NEWS:**

At a Special Meeting of SMARTT on Nov. 25, 1997, with nine present, after much deliberation it was felt that the club had but three alternatives:

- 1) Go to a 5 man Board of Directors. No regular meetings, but could be called at the discretion of this Board.
- 2) Have someone volunteer for the seat of President before the December Meeting.
- 3) Fold the club.

[Stay tuned for late-breaking reports -- ed.]



[SMARTT AMATEUR -- continued]

#### SANTA MARIA EC NOTES:

Put this frequency into your radios ... 147.920 (-). This is the frequency of the SM ARES emergency portable repeater, and it was demonstrated with great success at the Vandenberg Search and Rescue Symposium on Saturday, November 22. Ray, W9EC, talked about DF and how antennas will affect the range of your radios. Wally, WA6JPR, discussed HF. It was a very informative day. If you missed it this year, plan on attending next year. It is well worthwhile.

For those of you that purchased, or plan to purchase, the Alinco DJ-S11 HT, I have a very informative instruction set contributed by Chet, KF6OIF. If you want one let me know.

At our November ARES meeting we had a demo of the [SB] county-wide packet system by Roy, W6QJ, and Bob, KB6TBO. This system links all Santa Barbara ARES groups by packet.

TIP OF THE MONTH: Add this to your getaway bag .... FUSES. During the ARES meeting someone wanted to use the 2m radio and the power supply had blown a fuse, and we didn't have one anywhere. We were off the air. Needless to say we now have a variety of fuses in the radio room.

["PHONY" IDEAS? -- ed.] Thanks to Win, K7NKF, for the following phonetics; A, B, C, in England is Andrew, Benjamin, Charlie; in American military it's Able, Baker, Charlie; International it's Amsterdam, Baltimore, Casablanca; NATO, ARES, etc it's Alpha, Bravo, Charlie; (I think I like the last one best.)

SEASON'S GREETINGS to you all.

-- Jim Black, N6VNU

SM Emergency Services Coordinator

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#### SANTA MARIA NO-CODE TECHNICIAN CLASS REPORT

On October 24, 25, and 26, ARES North [SB] County, in conjunction with SMARTT conducted a No-Code Technician class that was very successful. The class ran Friday from 9 P.M. to 10 P.M., Saturday from 9 am to 6 P.M., and Sunday 9 am to noon, with VE testing at 1 P.M.. Twenty-six people called about the course and twelve actually attended. Twenty were tested on October 26, with eight passing novice and tech, five passing novice, and one passing five words CW. Fourteen is a success. As it turns out the people that took the class had a much higher percentage in passing the tests.

The course was built around "Now You're Talking", an ARRL publication. Instructors were both ARES and/or SMARTT members. This class was received with a great deal of enthusiasm and we may well put this into our schedule in the future.

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Be good to yourselves... Do Something! Support the Club! Adios Amigos.

-- Archie Miller, W6ALM

Editor, SMARTT Amateur

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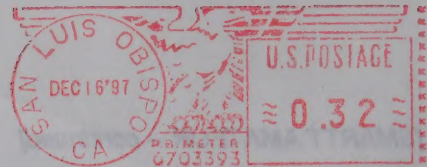
[SLOECC Editor's note: Many thanks to Archie, W6ALM, for sending the SMARTT Amateur newsletter to SLOECC by e-mail. We have much appreciated the info offered by the Santa Maria club, and regret to report that December was Archie's last issue as editor. Thanks, Archie, for keeping us in touch, and for lots of good ideas from our next-door neighbors. Amateur radio needs all the cooperation it can get these days, and we much appreciate yours! -- rea/ttx]

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#### SLOECC OFFICERS -- 1998

Jack Hunter, KD6HHG (South County), President  
Robert Gromer, WA7NMJ (South County), Vice President  
Richard Dickey, W6RKA (SLO), Secretary-Treasurer  
Kent Heunese, KE6OJR (SLO), Director (1997-1999)  
Bill Palmerston, K6BWJ (North County), Director (1996-1998)  
Max Sicher, WD6Z (Estero Bay), Director (1995-1997)





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